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# TENANT

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## RESOURCE CENTER

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### **Board of Directors Application Form**

Please use this form to apply for the Board of Directors of the Tenant Resource Center.

**What is your name?**

Hannah Renfro

**What is your mailing address?**

5154 Juneau Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53705

**What is your phone number?**

(262) 220-4809

**What is your email address?**

hrenfro@LE-hrlaw.com

**What is your occupation? Please include employer and job title if you are employed.**

Attorney, Lake Effect HR & Law

**Why are you interested in being on the Board of Directors for the Tenant Resource Center?**

I am interested in joining TRC's Board of Directors because I would like to assist how I can in its serving its mission for the community.

I grew up with a very financially unstable family. As it relates to housing, we always rented, we moved every year or two, we were evicted a few times, we lived in a duplex my siblings and I now refer to as "the roach house," we had our lights turned off. I went to a different school almost every year. The emotional and mental toll of that instability has shaped my life. And I was privileged in many ways. We were never homeless. We always had food. We did not live in a violent home. We never feared for our safety in our home or neighborhood. I understand, at least a little bit, how important it is to have stable, safe, affordable housing, and how out of reach it is for so many.

I believe that we should provide everyone access to stable, safe, affordable housing. Achieving this requires a massive shift in how we allocate resources. TRC's work is one piece is helping to create that shift.

**What kind of experience have you had with the Tenant Resource Center?**

I have used TRC's website for information since moving to Madison for law school. I am also aware of TRC's work through other organizations with which I have been involved, and our law firm (Lake Effect HR & Law) represents TRC. (If elected to be on the Board of Directors, I would recuse myself from any decision-making regarding an engagement our firm.)

**Have you ever been on a Board of Directors for a nonprofit? Please tell us about your Board experience, or if you've helped a nonprofit in other ways.**

I was on the Board of Directors for the Rodney Scheel House, and Vice-President and President of the Velma Hamilton Middle School PTO. As a board member with the Rodney Scheel House, I actively

participated in financial reviews, fundraising, approvals, and reviews of other matters. While with the PTO, I created a new website, revised the process for funding requests, led the Board in strategic planning to revise our mission to one that was more social justice oriented, assisted with fundraising, created the group's Google drive suite to electronically manage our meetings and documents, and led the organization's response to COVID to assist students and families.

In addition to my direct experience, I provide legal counsel to many nonprofits.

**The Board of Directors makes sure the Tenant Resource Center is financially stable, the Executive Director shows good leadership, and that our "big picture" plans are in line with our mission: For Housing Justice in Wisconsin. What skills would you bring to this work?**

I have worked extensively on strategic planning and how an organization lives its mission. As general counsel of an organization, I was involved internally with strategic planning, and incorporating our mission into policies, procedures, and practices throughout the organization. In my current role at Lake Effect, I work very closely with our HR professionals when we assist clients with strategic planning, and mission development and implementation.

I also have several years of experience working with developing (and constantly improving!) performance review processes.

**Optional - Please check all that apply to you**

I am a private homeowner

**Optional - Please check all that apply. Tenant Resource Center believes people who have been homeless are an important part of our leadership and should be on the Board of Directors. Are you currently, or have you ever**

Been evicted

**Do you have any conflicts of interest with the TRC? A conflict of interest occurs when your personal relationships - family, friendship, romantic, business, or financial - could come in conflict with the best interests of the TRC. This is anything that could inhibit your ability to act in the best interest of the TRC at all times, or that could give others reason to think that you are not putting the TRC's interests first. Please check any conflicts of interest that may apply.**

I am part of an organization of which TRC is a client or partner.

**If you checked yes to any conflicts of interest above, please explain, and please tell us your plan for removing yourself from decision making around these conflict of interests.**

If elected to be on the Board of Directors, I would recuse myself from any decision-making regarding an engagement our law firm.

**Right now, the Board of Directors meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6pm. Does that time work for you?**

Yes, the 3rd Thursday of every month generally works for me.

**Board Members also volunteer at least 3 additional hours each month doing things like fundraising and event planning, reading and writing policies, housing counseling with clients, etc. Additionally, 2021's strategic planning process has about a 2 hour per week asynchronous learning component, for 2.5 months (~July-September). Can you make these time commitments to the TRC during your 2 years as a board member?**

Yes

**The Board communicates mostly by email, and reviews/edits documents on Google Docs and Google Drive. We have conference calls with Google Meet. We also do group texting on WhatsApp. Board members are given a Tenant Resource Center email address to use for Board business. Does that work for you? If not, what communication methods work best for you?**

Yes

**If elected to the Board of Directors, are you willing to commit to a two-year term?**

Yes, I can commit to a two-year term.